#### **U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service**

# Join Us for Free, Fun, Programs! Parker River National Wildlife Refuge May, 2014





#### **REGISTRATION & CAPACITY:**

All refuge programs are FREE, but space may be limited. Preregistration is required for all programs, unless otherwise indicated. Please call (978) 465-5753. **Please Note**: If a program requires preregistration, your registration is not confirmed unless and until you receive a phone call or voice mail message from a member of the refuge staff.

Programs conducted in the auditorium are limited to 75 attendees. Seats are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Admission of additional attendees will stop when capacity has been reached.

Please note that outdoor programs may be cancelled if there is inclement weather and/or insufficient registration. Visit us on the web for more information: <a href="http://www.fws.gov/refuge/parker\_river/">http://www.fws.gov/refuge/parker\_river/</a> or call Refuge Headquarters. The refuge visitor center is located at 6 Plum Island Turnpike, Newburyport, MA.

#### **Behind the Scenes Refuge Tour**

Held on the following days: Saturday, May  $3^{rd}$  @ 9:30 am; Sunday, May  $4^{th}$  @1:00 pm; Friday, May  $9^{th}$  @1:00 pm; Saturday, May  $10^{th}$  @ 9:30 am; Sunday, May  $11^{th}$  @1:00 pm; Friday, May  $16^{th}$  @ 9:30 am; Saturday, May  $17^{th}$  @9:30 am; Sunday, May  $18^{th}$  @1:00 pm; Monday, May  $19^{th}$  @ 1:00 pm; Saturday, May  $24^{th}$  @ 9:30 am; Sunday, May  $25^{th}$  @1:00 pm; Saturday, May  $31^{st}$  @9:30 am

Join a refuge ranger for a behind the scenes tour of Parker River National Wildlife Refuge. Tour will be conducted via refuge van, with several brief "drive by" stops along the way. The tour will present an "up close and personal" look at the refuge through the multiple lenses of the cultural history of Plum Island and the Great Marsh, native wildlife and their habitats, and the role of refuge management in the conservation of these precious natural resources. Participants may be driven along areas on the refuge otherwise closed to the public. This guided two hour program is most appropriate for older teens and adults. Binoculars and/or a camera are recommended, but not required. Meet the ranger in the lobby of the Refuge visitor center 15 minutes prior to the program start time. Each session is limited to 8 participants; no more than 4 individuals per sign-up. Again, this is a vehicle – based tour, with limited stops on the Refuge. *Advance registration is required for this program, as enrollment is limited. Be advised that individual tours may be subject to cancellation.* \*Please note: Those who call and leave messages after hours, your registration is not confirmed until you receive a confirmation call from a Refuge staff member. Please call (978) 465-5753; to register for this program.

#### Special Screening of Film "Shored Up"

#### Wednesday, May 7th at 7:00 pm

The Storm Surge Spring Speaker Series continues with a screening of *Shored Up*, the first feature-length film about rising sea levels in the United States. It asks tough questions about our coastal communities and our relationship to the land, utilizing footage captured in the wake of Super Storm Sandy in 2012, specifically in New Jersey and North Carolina. This film won the Sundance Award for best documentary in 2013. The film will be shown in the visitor center auditorium. Venue capacity is limited to 75 attendees (first-come, first-served). Admission to this program is free and **preregistration is NOT required**.

This is another in an ongoing series of free public programs about climate change. The series is sponsored by Storm Surge, a group formed by local citizens who were brought together out of a collective concern about the impacts of sea level rise, extreme weather events, and other effects of long-term climate change. The group and the refuge share a strong interest in educating the public about this compelling issue.

#### Whip-poor-will Walks

#### Friday, May 9th; Saturday, May 10th; & Saturday, May 31st; 7:00 - 9:30 pm

Have you ever heard a strange bird singing on the background soundtrack of a movie and wondered what it was? You may have been hearing the song of the whip-poor-will. Join Nancy Landry, refuge volunteer and avid birder, for an evening of listening for the distinctive song of the whip-poor-will (and for the songs of other nighttime birds, as well). Participants will meet at the visitor contact station at parking Lot 1 of the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge at 7:00 pm. Dress appropriately for weather conditions. **Preregistration is required**; enrollment limited to 15 people.

### The Photographic Society of Parker River National Wildlife Refuge

#### Next Meeting: Saturday, May 10th at 1:30 pm in the visitor center auditorium

The Photographic Society welcomes anyone who has an interest in nature, wildlife, and/or photography – whether you are a total novice or earn a living by taking pictures! The club meets every month, generally on the second Saturday afternoon. Club activities include special presentations, slide shows (of members' work), intra-club mentoring and training, photo shoots, on-line photo sharing, and involvement in the refuge's various photography-related programs, events, and outreach activities. Venue capacity is limited to 75 attendees (first-come, first-served). Admission to this program is free and **preregistration is <u>NOT</u> required**.

## "Undercover with the Piping Plover" – Managing a Threatened Species Wednesday, May 14th @ 9:00 am & Friday, May 23rd at 9:00 am

The federally – threatened Atlantic coast piping plover nests and raises its young on Plum Island's beaches from April through August. Join a refuge ranger for a chance to glimpse this native species in its wild habitat and to hear the story of how biologists work to conserve the plover under the Endangered Species Act. As conditions permit, participants will have an opportunity to view the plovers on the beach, from a safe distance, using a refuge-provided spotting scope. Participants are encouraged to bring a pair of binoculars, a spotting scope, and/or a camera. Meet the ranger on the deck of the visitor contact station at the refuge's Lot 1. Program is appropriate for adults and older children. Each session is limited to 10 participants. **Preregistration is required.** 

## Special Evening Presentation: Preparing for Sea Level Rise Wednesday, May 21st at 7:00 pm

Kirk Bosma will present "Preparing for Sea Level Rise." Bosma is a senior coastal engineer and team leader of the Coastal Sciences, Engineering and Planning Team at Woods Hole Group. He focuses on habitat restoration, shoreline protection and climate change planning. The presentation will take place in the refuge's visitor center auditorium. Venue capacity is limited to 75 attendees (first-come, first-served). Admission to this program is free and **preregistration is <u>NOT</u> required**.

This is another in an ongoing series of free public programs about climate change. The series is sponsored by Storm Surge, a group formed by local citizens who were brought together out of a collective concern about the impacts of sea level rise, extreme weather events, and other effects of long-term climate change. The group and the refuge share a strong interest in educating the public about this compelling issue.